

Head for the beach

Jersey Horse Driving Society held its third and final beach scurry of the summer season on July 18th. The event, which took place at Le Braye, was judged by Angela Fenlon in very hot sunny weather, but fortunately there was a breeze which cooled the ponies (and one donkey) down. Visitors, who were enjoying an afternoon on the beach sunbathing and swimming, loved watching the competition as it is something they don't usually come across. Dave Gallichan, who set up the course, made it very challenging and tight as usual.

The scurry was split into two classes. The first had to be completed in trot and the second could be driven in any pace. Competitors who knocked a cone or ball down had five seconds added to their final time.

As always, the evening rounded off with a bag of chips from the beach kiosk and everyone went home happy. The sun always shines in Jersey, making these events even more special. June Vibert, who competed there with her husband John, says: "The beach scurries are unique events that horses, competitors and spectators enjoy. They are an opportunity to just go for it and they take place in one of the most beautiful beaches in Jersey."



Leonie Surcouf



Zoe Gallichan



Sheila Vétier

Photos by Tony Vardon

New Dalmatians hit the trail at the National Carriage Dog Trials

By Anne Dickens

The British Carriage Dog Society (BCDS) this summer welcomed a number of new competitors at this year's National Carriage Dog Trials held at Lincomb Farm in Stourport on Severn in Worcestershire. After last year's 'wash out', this year's competition was a great success with warm sunshine and plenty of sportsmanship.

There were four dogs entered this year at Bronze level, which is the novice 'starter' class for these working Dalmatians, and there were mixed fortunes for their handlers. Vicky Brennan's Gemma (Y Wyddfa Juno) gained her Bronze Road Dog Bronze qualification. Vicky was returning to the Trials after winning the Road Dog Championship with her dog Desmo at the first UK Trials in 2003. After an absence as

a competitor of six years, Vicky decided to train Gemma for the Road Dog discipline for her first Trials and she sailed through her obedience and endurance tests with flying colours.

Josi Kaal who has recently joined the British Carriage Dog Society committee, offered to steward at the Trials and was persuaded to enter her six year old, Celsie (Caldeacre Celsie Von Schunikka) in the Bronze Carriage Dog (Groom Handler) class. Kay Martland has been having some recent success in the show ring with Dazzle (Kalokairie's Lady Eleanor at Deefadal) with two CCs under her belt already and various overseas awards. Kay and Dazzle entered in the Road Dog class, but the competition environment was a bit too much for Kay's rescue horse Nat on the day and even though poor Dazzle tried to work alongside him in the obedience field, Nat just

didn't settle sufficiently for Kay to complete the test. Last but not least amongst the new competitors this year was Fay Moffat-Roberts entered in the Bronze Road Dog class with rescue Dalmatian Louis owned by Tim and Giselle Lockett. This was the first time anyone had attempted to compete with a dog owned by someone else.

Alison Burgess with Tally (Koroyza Candy Dreams at Wheelgates) and Miranda Purves with Splash (Plentycoups Sapphire) were awarded Gold Road Dog and Gold Carriage Dog Champion

titles respectively, after completing the highest level of obedience and a 40km endurance trial. Julie Swindells' Clover (Pjalsdals Cwite Sure) was awarded her Gold Carriage Dog certificate following an exemplary obedience test, but were unfortunately withdrawn from the endurance run with a scuffed pad. Kelly Evans' Dynamite (Tyrodal In Classic Form) and Chris Cleland's Ozzy (Candidals King of the World) both achieved Silver qualifications as Road and Carriage Dogs respectively.



Julie Swindells

Photo by Swingletree Photography